

Michael F. Easley  
Governor



State of North Carolina  
Office of the Governor

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**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES \$150,000 FOR LOCAL BRAC EFFORTS  
TO HELP PROTECT SEYMOUR JOHNSON AIR FORCE BASE**

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Mike Easley announced today that Team GoldWayne will receive \$150,000 in state matching funds to help the community protect the Seymour Johnson Air Force Base from any potential base closing.

“Seymour Johnson Air Force Base is home to one of the premier fighter wings in the world and it provides vital defense for our country,” Easley said. “The base is an integral part of the community and provides important jobs and investments both locally and across the state. We must do what we can to protect Seymour Johnson, its personnel and the surrounding community in the upcoming BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure) process.”

Team GoldWayne will use the \$150,000 state match to protect Seymour Johnson and help secure new missions and military investments for it. The base has about 4,300 airmen and generates more than \$800 million annually in economic impact through payroll, operations, outside contracts and retirees.

Team GoldWayne becomes the third recipient of state matching funds for BRAC efforts to prepare for a round of base closings and realignments that the U.S. Department of Defense is to announce in early 2005. On May 13, Easley announced \$150,000 in state matching funds for the Onslow County Committee of 100 in its efforts to protect Camp Lejeune and the Marine Corps Air Station at New River. And on June 3, the governor presented \$150,000 to Allies for Cherry Point’s Tomorrow to help protect the Marine Corps Air Station at Cherry Point.

“North Carolina has strong military ties,” Easley said. “We must continue to make the necessary investments to protect and keep our bases. Coordinating our efforts with local communities is key.”

The 2004-05 state budget, which the governor signed into law last month, includes authorization to use up to \$2 million to prepare for BRAC, including allocations for individual community efforts.

According to a recent study, the military sector contributes about \$18 billion to North Carolina’s economy each year. North Carolina has six major military installations – Seymour Johnson, Cherry Point, Camp Lejeune, New River Air Station, Ft. Bragg and Pope Air Force Base. The state also has the Coast Guard Station in Elizabeth City, which is now under the Department of Homeland Security.

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